Forcing Chief Architect Programs to Use a Specific Graphics Card in Windows 10/11

Reference Number: **KB-03140** Last Modified: **May 28, 2024**

The information in this article applies to:



QUESTION

Chief Architect doesn't display my dedicated graphics card when I select the Video Card Status panel located in Preferences; instead, the program appears to be utilizing the integrated graphics chip.

How can I force the Chief Architect program to use the more powerful graphics card that's in my computer?

ANSWER

In Windows 10/11, the ability to specify which graphics card is used for each application can be specified in the Display settings.

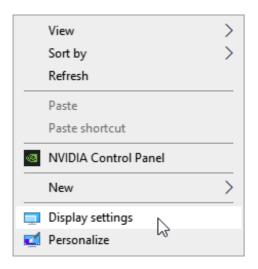
Please follow the directions in this article to learn how to access the Display settings on

your PC, and how to assign a dedicated graphics card to be used with a Chief Architect program.

If you're unsure if your computer has more than one graphics card, please see <u>KB-03129</u>: <u>Locating your Computer's Specifications</u> (<u>https://www.chiefarchitect.com/support/article/KB-03129/locating-your-</u> <u>computer-s-specifications.html</u>).

To configure a program to use a specific graphics card

- 1. Close the Chief Architect program.
- 2. From the Desktop, right-click in an empty area and select **Display settings** from the contextual menu.



You can also navigate to **Settings> System> Display**.

3. In Windows 10, scroll down and select the **Graphics settings** link.

In Windows 11, select the **Graphics** category under the Related settings heading.

Settings	- 🗆 X
命 Home	Display
Find a setting	Scale and layout
System	Change the size of text, apps, and other items
🖵 Display	100% ~ Advanced scaling settings
4》 Sound	Display resolution
Notifications & actions	1920 × 1080 (Recommended) ~
J Focus assist	Display orientation
(¹) Power & sleep	
□ Battery	Multiple displays
📼 Storage	Connect to a wireless display
문 Tablet	Older displays might not always connect automatically. Select Detect to try to connect to them.
曰: Multitasking	Detect
Projecting to this PC	Advanced display settings
🛠 Shared experiences	Graphics settings

 In Windows 10, under the Choose an app to set preference heading, select **Desktop** app from the drop-down menu.

In Windows 11, under the Add an app heading, select **Desktop app** from the dropdown menu.

← Settings	_	×
命 Graphics settings		
Hardware-accelerated GPU scheduling		
Reduce latency and improve performance. You'll need to restart your PC to have your changes take effect.		
Off Off		
Graphics performance preference		
Choose between better performance or battery life when using an app. You might need to restart the app for your changes to take effect.		
Choose an app to set preference		
Desktop app		
Microsoft Store app		
We didn't find any of your preferences yet. Select an app to get started.		
Get help		
Give feedback		

Note: If the Desktop app option is not available, you may be running an older version of Windows 10. Select Classic App from the menu instead.

5. Click the **Browse** button to open File Explorer. Browse to the Chief Architect or Home Designer executable file, select it, then click **Add**.

By default, executable files for all Chief Architect programs are found in the following location: C:\Program Files\Chief Architect\ [PROGRAM TITLE AND VERSION].

For example, the executable for Chief Architect Premier X16 is located in: C:\Program Files\Chief Architect\Chief Architect Premier X16.

Open			×		
← → → ↑ 🔤 « Chief Architect > Chief Architect Premier X16 > 🗸 ᠔ Search Chief Architect Premie 🔎					
Organize 🔻 New folder			III - III - III		
3.0.1	Name	Туре	Size		
📌 Quick access	Astral	File folder			
len OneDrive		File folder			
This PC	iconengines	File folder			
3D Objects	imageformats	File folder			
	lex lex	File folder			
Desktop	Manual	File folder			
Documents	Manufacturer Data	File folder			
🕂 Downloads	platforms	File folder			
b Music	resources	File folder			
Pictures	sqldrivers	File folder			
😽 Videos	styles	File folder			
Local Disk (C:)	Templates	File folder			
		File folder			
💣 Network	Chief Architect Premier X16 Help	Application	270 KB		
	Chief Architect Premier X16	Application	57,077 KB		
	ChiefArchitectRayTracer	Application	973 KB		
	QtWebEngineProcess	Application	621 KB		
File name: Chief	Architect Premier X16	✓ All files	~		
		Ad	d Cancel		

If you have installed a Chief Architect program to a different drive or location, refer to the location you have installed it to instead.

6. With the desired Chief Architect program now listed, select it, then click the **Options** button.

← Settings	_	×
命 Graphics settings		
Hardware-accelerated GPU scheduling		
Reduce latency and improve performance. You'll need to restart your PC to have your changes take effect. Off		
Graphics performance preference		
Choose between better performance or battery life when using an app. You might need to restart the app for your changes to take effect.		
Choose an app to set preference		
Desktop app \checkmark		
Browse		
Chief Architect Premier X16 Let Windows decide C:\Program Files\Chief Architect\Chief Architect Premier X16\Chief Architect Premier X16.exe		
Options		

7. Select the **High performance** option, then click **Save**.

← Settings		_		×
ଜ Graphics se	ttings			
Hardware-accelerate	d GPU scheduling			
Reduce latency and improve performance. You'll need to restart your PC to have your changes take effect.				
Off	Graphics preference			
Graphics performan	What do you prefer for graphics performance?			
Choose between better pe app. You might need to re effect.	 Let Windows decide Power saving GPU: Intel(R) HD Graphics 630 			
Choose an app to set pref	High performance GPU: NVIDIA GeForce GTX 1050 Ti			
Desktop app				
Browse	Save Cancel			
Chief Architect Premier X16 Let Windows decide C:\Program Files\Chief Architect\Chief Architect Premier X16\Chief Architect Premier X16.exe Options				

Note: If you have verified that your computer has more than one graphics card, but you only see a single graphics option listed during this step, it's possible that your monitor's display cables are not plugged into the correct ports on your PC. Verify that the monitors are plugged directly into the video card, if applicable.

8. The high performance graphics card will now be utilized the next time you launch the Chief Architect program.

Chief Architect Minimum System Requirements (/support/article/KB-02761/chiefarchitect-minimum-system-requirements.html)

Home Designer Minimum System Requirements
(https://www.homedesignersoftware.com/support/article/KB-01095/home-designerminimum-system-requirements.html)

Locating Your Computer's Specifications (/support/article/KB-03129/locating-yourcomputer-s-specifications.html)



Privacy Policy (/company/privacy.html)